(a) whether Government has received recommendations from Standing Committee of National Minorities Committee that National Institute of Open Schooling and Madarsas should issue a joint pass certificate to students clearing middle level of schooling from Muslim religious schools;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has recommended that Aalim and Fazil degrees by Madarsas be recognized by the Indian universities; and

(c) if so, the details of steps taken in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir Madrasa Modernisation Programme was recast factoring in the recommendations of sub-committee set up by the National Monitoring Committee on Minorities' Education (NMCME) and a new scheme, Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madarsas (SPQEM) has been launched. The scheme provides for academic collaboration of volunteering Madarsas with the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), for the purpose of certification and imparting of vocational training. NIOS also runs academic programmes in collaboration with NGOs including Madrasas under which joint Middle level certification is provided. The 'Aalim' qualification awarded by the State Madarsas Boards of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh and Fazil' qualification awarded by the State Madrasa Board of West Bengal have been granted equivalence with that of Class XII certification of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) for the purposes of admission to undergraduate programmes in the Universities.

Promotion of common syllabus

351. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the details of measures being taken by Government or proposed to be taken to have a common syllabus, course structure and certification system among the Commonwealth countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): No, Sir. At present there is no proposal of Government of India to have a common syllabus, course structure and certification system among the Commonwealth countries. However, India currently has bilateral relations on cooperation in the field of education signing Educational Exchange Programme (EEP)/Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with 6 Commonwealth Countries, namely Guyana, Tanzania, New Zealand, Australia, Sri Lanka and South Africa.

Public Private Partnership in Education

352. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT he pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has worked out a new Education Policy on Public Private Partnership pattern;